

Hot Issues (elevation/awareness)

- **COVID-19:** Management huddles held on Mondays. COVID-19 reports regarding impacted operations are provided twice weekly. The program is operating under Phase 2 of regional reconstitution. Personnel are adhering to protocols regarding building access, travel requests, as well as preventive measures, i.e., social distancing, wearing masks, etc., while in the office and the field. National Superfund & Emergency Management Division (SEMD) Directors' calls are held monthly.
- **Oak Ridge Reservation, Oak Ridge, TN:** On January 19th, Assistant Administrator for OLEM, Peter Wright, sent a follow up letter to DOE and TDEC, including a table of the Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements that identifies the federal and state regulations to be added to the waste water Focused Feasibility Study. On January 15th, the Emerging Issues Team (EIT) met to discuss the recent dispute decision handed down by the EPA Administrator on December 31, 2020 and future public involvement. Further discussion is planned for January 29th. Additionally, the TDEC Deputy Commissioner requested the R4 RA's support for TDEC's proposal for mercury discharge to Bear Creek. The Senior Leadership Team referred to the EIT for follow-up.
- **35th Avenue Site, Birmingham, AL:** Of the 1,970 properties sampled, 658 require cleanup due to elevated arsenic, lead, and/or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. To date, 523 residential properties have been addressed. Staff are working to obtain access agreements to sample approximately 60 properties in the Fairmont neighborhood.
- **Westside Lead Site (Elm Street), Atlanta, GA:** Remediation crews returned from the holiday break and resumed activities. A virtual public meeting is still being planned. A dry run on presenting using the virtual portal is expected next week. Of the 1,087 residential properties identified within the site, access agreements have been obtained for 531 properties, 488 properties have been sampled, and 202 properties require removal due to their exceedance of 400 ppm in lead. Of those 202 properties requiring removal, 58 have been completed, 2 are in progress, and 144 removals remain (including in progress). To date, 16,312 tons of non-hazardous soil has been disposed. All the sample targets needed to qualify for the NPL have been achieved using lead and arsenic as the primary contaminants. Sampling will continue at the site.
- **Southside Chattanooga Lead Site, Chattanooga, TN:** Sampling will commence January 25th - 29th, and scheduling for the event will begin this week. There are approximately 190 properties on the current sampling list.
- **Petroleum Products Corp., Pembroke Park, FL:** The Proposed Plan (PP) was released on January 11th. The PP addresses OU1 (product recovery, OU2 (soil/sludge) and the interim action for OU3 (groundwater). A Press notification has been issued along with mailed fact sheets to the site mail list. The PP has also been included on the webpage. The comment period will close on February 12th.

Upcoming Major Decisions and Events

- **January 11th – February 12th:** Proposed Plan comment periods for:
 - US Finishing/Cone Mills;
 - Petroleum Products.
- **January 19th-20th:** Virtual National PA/SI training in coordination with OSRTI. The training sessions will be taped and filed in the National CERCLA training center
- **January 28th:** Kerr-McGee Navassa virtual Proposed Plan meeting hosted by EPA via Zoom. The plan proposed a no action remedy, which the community supports. The 30-day comment period will start January 25th.
- **January 28th:** State work plan meeting with South Carolina.

Contact with Elected Officials

- None